

## SJR 32 Subcommittee on Medical Liability Insurance Interim Committee

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## 58th Montana Legislature

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September 1, 2004

TO: Interested persons FROM: Dave Bohyer

RE: Changes to the Subcommittee's bill drafts posted on its website

The draft bills prepared for the Subcommittee are posted on the Subcommittee's website to maximize the opportunity for interested persons, stakeholders, and the public to review the proposals. One of the advantages of providing Internet access to draft legislation is that persons who are acutely interested in the subjects of the bills often access the website to scrutinize the drafts, question the drafters about various provisions in the drafts, forward comments or questions to the drafters, and prepare comments, questions, suggestions, amendments, etc. for consideration by legislators as the drafts proceed through the legislative process.

Although we take great care to avoid it, drafters sometimes make an error. For example, we may omit language that should have been retained or include language that is unclear, inaccurate, incomplete, and so on. For the most part, such errors can be remedied without fanfare, e.g., by correcting the spelling, grammar or punctuation; correcting section/subsection numbering, updating an internal reference, and the like. Occasionally, however, a drafting error is significant enough that it is better for the drafter to fix the drafting error and repost the amended version to the website than to let the error go unrepaired and the erroneous draft to be ever more widely disseminated.

Therefore, will make a focused effort to ensure that everyone reading the draft bills posted on the SJR 32 Subcommittee's website has access to the most current version of each draft. Working with our webmaster, we will "flag" any of the drafts that has been significantly revised by the drafter to remedy avoidable confusion or to more accurately achieve the goals and objectives of the Subcommittee.

If you have questions regarding any of the bills, please contact me by phone at (406) 444-3064 or by e-mail at dbohyer@mt.gov.